

particular the only reason to select the partial-birth abortion procedure is to ensure that the baby is dead when delivered. As a physician, I recognize that serious complications can occur during the last trimester of pregnancy. However, if the mother's health dictates that the pregnancy must be concluded and a normal birth is not possible, the baby may be delivered by C-section. Whether the infant lives or dies depends upon the severity of the medical complications and the degree of prematurity, but that outcome is dictated by the disease process itself. The fate of the infant during the partial-birth abortion procedure is predetermined by the nature of the procedure performed and is uniformly fatal.

In 1995, a 12-doctor panel representing the American Medical Association recommended banning partial-birth abortion, referring to it as, and I quote, basically repulsive, close quote. I agree with the AMA's panel. The procedure is repulsive and after today will be illegal.

FREEDOM RIDERS

(Mr. CROWLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Immigrant Workers' Freedom Ride and its participants.

On September 20, hard-working men and women from every corner of this country set off on a journey in support of immigrant workers' rights. These men and women support our economy through their work. Men and women who support all of us with their dedication, their taxes, their skills. Men and women who are involved in their communities, in our communities.

Much like the freedom riders of years past, they are calling for what many would consider to be just basic rights. They are calling for family reunification. They are calling for the restoration of labor protections for all workers in the U.S. They are calling for our country to acknowledge their civil rights.

These men and women are as much a part of our Nation's history as they are a part of our Nation's present and future. For years they have proven their dedication to our country. They deserve more than a simple tour of our country. They deserve our respect.

HONORING THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it is a wonderful time of the year in South Carolina. It is a time when families from all over the State bring their children and friends to the State Fair in Columbia. The tradition of our State Fair dates back 134 years,

when it started as an agricultural convention sponsored by the State Agriculture and Mechanical Society of South Carolina, raising funds for charities. Its facilities are a great resource for expositions and conventions year-round.

Today, the Fair attracts almost 600,000 people who come to enjoy educational exhibits, arts and crafts, livestock, games, rides and popular entertainment. I am proud to have attended the Fair since my childhood, and I am proud to recognize this as an example of the American spirit of community. I want to thank Society President Cante Heath and Fair Manager Gary Goodman for their hard work in making this year's Fair a tremendous success.

I ask all of my colleagues to join me in wishing the people of South Carolina a safe and enjoyable time at this year's State Fair.

In conclusion, may God bless our troops.

IMMIGRANT WORKERS FREEDOM RIDE

(Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome and salute the Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride.

Inspired by the 1961 freedom rides that sought to integrate bus terminals in the South, today's riders are visiting cities and towns across the country. They are raising awareness about the plight of immigrant workers and advocating for comprehensive change to our immigration system. Like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., these Americans refuse to believe, and I quote, that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity in this great Nation.

Let me share the story of one of those Americans. Salvador Guillen is the proud leader of the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees International Union, Local 681. He is the father of three children and has worked as a housekeeper at Disneyland's Paradise Pier Hotel for over 15 years. Salvador was born in Zamora, Michoacan, and has lived in the United States for 18 years. He is now a proud citizen of the United States.

In his own words, Salvador states: "I want workers like my two sisters who have not been able to legalize and who are forced to work jobs where they are abused, overworked and underpaid to have the same opportunity."

Together we can implement sensible immigration policies that bring all immigrants one step closer to the American dream.

COMMENDING MEDICAL COLLEGE OF GEORGIA AND FORT GORDON COMMUNITY FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO FIGHT TERRORISM

(Mr. BURNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURNS. Mr. Speaker, in the wake of the September 11, 2001, attacks, the Medical College of Georgia, the U.S. Army Signal Center and the Southeast Regional Army Medical Command at Fort Gordon have joined together to train military and civilian personnel in disaster response, emergency medical response and emergency response coordination. I commend them for their efforts to develop the Training Center for Disaster Medicine Preparedness and a Disaster Response Simulation Center.

These three organizations combine to include world-class medical education facilities, faculty and advanced communications infrastructure, ensuring well-trained and prepared personnel in the event of a natural disaster or a terrorist attack serving not only east Georgia but indeed the entire Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I commend MCG and the Fort Gordon community for their efforts on behalf of our Nation.

MONEY-MAKING OPPORTUNITIES IN IRAQ

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I remember the time that this administration came to the Congress and asked us to support the troops and then turned around and cut veterans benefits by \$25 billion. Today, while we are being told to vote for \$87 billion for Iraq to support the troops, we find that those who will benefit financially from the war are the armies of lobbyists who have ties to this administration.

In yesterday's Hill, a column by Josh Marshall points out, and this is a quote, "The President's right-hand man quits his government job just before the bombs start falling. He sets up shop in the offices of one of the biggest GOP lobbyists in town. And he starts selling his services to clients who want a piece of the big Iraqi reconstruction contracts pie—the pie his old bosses are in charge of slicing up."

From today's Washington Post: "Getting the rights to distribute Procter & Gamble products would be a gold mine," said one of the partners at New Bridge who did not want to be named. "One well-stocked 7-Eleven could knock out 30 Iraqi stores; a Wal-Mart could take over the country," he said.

Here we are with a hostile takeover led by our men and women whom we pride. Stop this administration from using troops to justify a war and war profiteering. Get out of Iraq.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I came here with a prepared text, but I just could not resist this smiling face. Through the miracle of modern technology, this is the picture of a baby in the womb. It is clearly a baby. It is clearly smiling. It is clearly a human being.

I did not bring with me some other visuals that would show you what is going to happen to Sarah in the partial-birth abortion procedure. She is going to be turned around in her mother's womb, and she is going to be delivered feet first. Not quite delivered. Her head is going to be left in the birth canal and then a trocar is going to be stuck in the back of her head, just where the spinal cord enters the brain. And then her soft brain tissue is going to be sucked out. Obviously, her life expired. This is partial-birth abortion. We are going to ban this hideous procedure today.

IN SUPPORT OF THE BAN ON PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTIONS

(Mr. BISHOP of Utah asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BISHOP OF UTAH. Mr. Speaker, often times we do things that are popular in America, but wrong. Today, we are going to do something that is popular with the majority of Americans, but very right.

H.R. 760 does not overturn the Roe v. Wade ruling, but it eliminates a heinous process that was never intended to be protected in the original judgment. When the Supreme Court bypassed the legislative process to make abortions legal 30 years ago, the legislative voice opposing abortion, was never heard. Thus the ruling laid the foundation for the outrage and protest we have today. The people were not allowed to be heard through their elected Representatives.

Many judges who today uphold the Roe v. Wade ruling today, oppose the procedure by which it became reality. By approving the conference report on the partial-birth abortion ban today, we will be enacting legislation the correct way. Both Chambers of Congress will have debated and spoken on this bill, and now the President will have the same opportunity.

The partial-birth abortion ban will be a good law, a righteous law, and it will be enacted the right way. I support this legislation because it protects the most important minority in America: those who cannot speak for themselves. I urge my colleagues to do the same.

IRAQ SUPPLEMENTAL

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, as we debate the Presidential supplemental request for Iraq, one point I do want to

address is the idea of placing some of the requested funds for reconstruction to Iraq in the form of a loan. I believe it is possible to do this considering the enormous assets of this country. I am not persuaded by the argument that we do not want to add to Iraq's current debt of \$200 billion, which is largely owed to France, Germany, and Russia. I find it difficult to believe that if these countries truly want to contribute to the stability of the region, they would not seek to forgive a substantial portion of their debt.

The American families sacrificed much to win the freedom in Iraq. However, we cannot expect Iraq to pay back funds first to those very countries that sat back and let our men and women undertake the risks to win the freedom in Iraq.

SUPPORT THE PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT

(Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, today this House is set to pass a historic bill, the partial-birth abortion ban. We have passed it several times in the past, but this time is different. In this case, we have a President who has said that he will sign this important bill to end this horrific practice.

I have a nephew that was born a few years ago less than two pounds, and many of the young men and women waiting to be born that have been killed by this procedure have weighed more than Alexander. So I call on my colleagues to rise to this historic moment, pass this important bill, and protect those, the most innocent among us.

IMMIGRANT WORKERS FREEDOM RIDE

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, immigrants who come to this country today work hard in the lowest-paying jobs, sometimes working two or three jobs just to support their families. They earn very little money for their efforts, but they bring the richness of hope to our civic and our cultural communities. They pay taxes. They are overwhelmingly honest and hardworking, and they deserve our respect. They wanted only a fair opportunity to share in the prosperity of this great country. They only want what so many others received before them.

Today, because of outdated and unnecessarily burdensome immigration restrictions, many immigrants live their lives underground, cannot get an opportunity for a more formal, legal status and get the opportunity to work for citizenship. Immigration laws and

policies that deny people opportunities for permanence or that leave them exploited should certainly be challenged. We should allow immigrant workers without documentation to seek permanent residency status without being forced to leave the country.

Undocumented workers, who have lived here lawfully and productively, should be eligible for immigrant visas based on family relationships and job skills. They should have the opportunity to become legal permanent residents and eventually U.S. citizens.

I join the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SOLIS) in her support of the Freedom Ride Resolution and urge the President to reform our broken immigration system.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 3, PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT OF 2003

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 383 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 383

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (S. 3) to prohibit the procedure commonly known as partial-birth abortion. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purposes of debate.

Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday the Committee on Rules met and granted a rule to provide for the customary 1 hour of consideration for the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Conference Report of 2003.

The rule waives all points of order against the conference report to accompany S. 3 and against its consideration. It also provides that the conference report shall be considered as read.

This conference report makes it illegal in the United States for a physician to perform a partial-birth abortion. As an original cosponsor of this legislation, I am very pleased to see this conference report reach the floor of the House of Representatives. I have been waiting for this day to come since 1995.

I am sure that President Bush is eagerly awaiting the opportunity to put an end to this horrific act of human violence by signing this legislation into law. Finally, we have a President in the White House who will not veto this monumental legislation.